

TOM MCCLAIN



February 25, 1976

STAT

Lieutenant General Vernon Walters  
Deputy Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C.

Dear General Walters:

Please forgive my delay in formally letting you know how much your visit to Houston was appreciated. Although my flashfires are not as global and significant as yours, they required my attention nonetheless.

I am one man who sincerely thanks you on behalf on our group. Never before has a speaker generated so much interest, radiated so much confidence and, unfortunately, been so castigated by press coverage.

The enclosed article appeared in one of our local papers. I trust you believe me when I tell you extreme dissatisfaction was expressed by me to both newspapers for the manner in which your speech was reported. Herewith too, I hope you will let me know if you are to speak in Houston again. I promise I will personally do what I can to see that you receive accurate coverage.

Again, thanking you very much, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Tom McClain

TM:kme

Encl.

DDCI

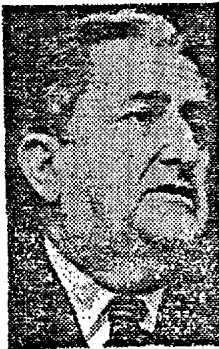
Houston Chronicle

6 January 1976

## Probe Could Damage CIA, Agency Official Says Here

The deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) said here today that recent congressional investigations of the agency were "like rummaging through the garbage of history" and have the potential of damaging the nation's intelligence operations.

The deputy director, Vernon A. Walters, however, said the CIA "will live with" the investigations because the United States requires that its intelligence arm be responsible to elected representatives.



WALTERS

Walters said congressional investigators are charging us "with things that happened in the 1950s and 1960s."

Walters spoke at a meeting of the Executive Breakfast Club, a group of young businessmen, at Stouffers Hotel.

Walters refused to answer questions from reporters.

He conceded that the CIA had been involved in the planning of assassinations and experiments with drugs and poisonous toxins.

He noted, however, that the investigations showed no evidence that any planned assassinations were carried out.

There have been "some kooks and nuts" in the CIA and overzeal and misjudgments by agents of the CIA since the agency was organized 27 years ago, Walters said.

"But they've been very few and far between," he said.

Executive Registry
76-690/1A

March 1, 1976

DDCI  
15 Jan 76

Dear Mr. McClain,

I certainly will pass along to General Walters your warm words of appreciation for his visit. He is a marvelous officer and has done an awful lot for this Agency.

Thank you for writing.

Yours very truly,

[Redacted Signature]

George Bush

STATINTL

Mr. Tom McClain

[Redacted Address]

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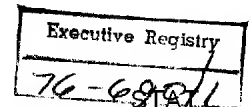
DCI/GB/kgf/1 March 1976

Distribution:

- Orig - Addressee
- 1 - DDCI w/copy of basic
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- 1 - ER w/copy of basic

DDCI

TOM MCCLAIN



DDCJ

15 Jan 76

February 25, 1976

Mr. George Bush  
Director,  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Bush,

Recently Lieutenant/General Vernon Walters spoke before the Executive Breakfast Club of Houston, of which I am the President.

General Walters is to be commended on the excellent manner in which he both explained the functions of the Central Intelligence Agency and fielded questions following his speech. Unfortunately, the coverage afforded him by both of our local newspapers left a great deal to be desired; indeed; it was possibly even deplorable.

Your selection and confirmation to your new position is, I'm sure, an acknowledgement of accomplishment which many recognize. I believe you will agree that acceptance of an obligation is only fully understood by the man who fulfills that obligation. So I take this opportunity to extend the good wishes of one man to another.

Please let General Walters know his visit to Houston was appreciated.

Thanking you, I am,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom McClain".

Tom McClain

TM:kme

Executive Registry

76-690

ADMINISTRATIVE

STAT

STATINTL

15 January 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Executive Breakfast Club Apology for Newspaper Article  
on D/DCI Talk

1. On 7 January 1976 Mr. Tom McClain, President Executive Breakfast Club, telephoned [redacted] Mr. McClain asked this office to convey to Lieutenant General Vernon Walters, Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, McClain's sincere apology for the type of newspaper coverage given the General's talk to the Executive Breakfast Club. Mr. McClain specifically mentioned the article appearing in the 6 January 1976 editions of the Houston Chronicle as distorting the thrust and substance of the talk. Mr. McClain stated he had telephoned the Houston Chronicle to complain about the article and he was determined to pursue the matter until the Chronicle prints another, more balanced report of the talk.

2. As of 13 January 1976 no such article had appeared in the Houston Chronicle.

STATINTL

Attachments:

Copy of 6 January 1976 Houston Chronicle article

cc:

[redacted]  
Office of the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

STAT

RHL/jr

DDCI

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ADMINISTRATIVE

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HOUSTON CHRONICLE

6 January 1976

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## ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

**SUBJECT:** (Optional) Executive Breakfast Club Apology for Newspaper Article on D/DCI Talk

**FROM:** 
**EXTENSION** 
**NO.** 25X1  
**DATE** 2 February 1976 25X1

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED		
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